

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:

Schmitt, Maja
AVECIA LIMITED
Intellectual Property Group
PO Box 42, Hexagon House
Blackley
Manchester M9 8ZS
GRANDE BRETAGNE

11 MAR 2004

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

09.03.2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference

SMC 60507WO

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.

PCT/GB 03/01215

International filing date (day/month/year)

21.03.2003

Priority date (day/month/year)

28.03.2002

Applicant

AVECIA BV et al.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions are patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to the requirements for patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

RECEIVED INTO KEY
SK REMINDER CREATED FOR
TORNEY

TO BE VERIFIED
IN ENTRY VERIFIED

Name and mailing address of the international
preliminary examining authority:



European Patent Office
D-80298 Munich
Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d
Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465

Authorized Officer

Walli, K

Tel. +49 89 2399-6060




PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

SEP 2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference SMC 60507/WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/PEA416)	
International application No. PCT/GB 03/01215	International filing date (day/month/year) 21.03.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 28.03.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC C09D201/00		
Applicant AVECIA BV et al.		
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of sheets.</p>		
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the opinion II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application 		
Date of submission of the demand 04.09.2003	Date of completion of this report 09.03.2004	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Hoffmann, K Telephone No. +49 89 2399-8419	



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/GB 03/01215**

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, Pages

1-45 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-16 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 - ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 - ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).
3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 - ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 - ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.
4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages:
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.:
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets:
5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/GB 03/01215**

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB03/01215

ad item V:

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: US-B1-6 303 189 (GRAY ET AL) 16 October 2001.

D1 discloses a method for increasing the open time of an aqueous coating composition comprising mixing a film forming latex polymer with an aqueous based polyurethane dispersion. The polyurethane of said dispersion (Sancure 815 in the example) is not a non-crosslinkable water-dispersible oligomer, on the contrary, it is curable at ambient conditions (column 3, lines 38-44). The claimed subject-matter thus is novel over D1.

Object of the application is the provision of coatings having improved open and wet edge times as well as good tack-free times. D1 is regarded as representing the closest available prior art. It refers as well to the improvement of the open time. Thus the objective problem solved in comparison to D1 may be seen in the provision of further aqueous coating compositions having an increased open time. The solution according to the application, i.e. the use of a non-crosslinkable water-dispersible oligomer, is not made obvious by D1 or any other document cited in the Search Report. It thus appears that the claimed subject-matter involves an inventive step.

With respect to the objections raised in the International Search Report concerning clarity, conciseness and support of the claimed subject-matter the Preliminary Examining Authority is of the opinion that the description and the claims comply with the requirements of Art. 5 and 6 PCT. It is the understanding of the Examining Authority that the parameters i) to iv) of claim 1 are not an attempt to define the coating compositions by reference to a result to be achieved. These parameters are by no means unusual in the field of coating compositions and simply define acceptable minimum requirements for the object underlying the present application, i.e. the provision of coatings having improved open and wet edge times as well as good tack-free times. The examples demonstrate that this object is met by the compositions according to claim 1. The application contains examples for any of the non-crosslinkable water-dispersible oligomers a) as defined in claim 4. All these examples easily meet the requirements of parameters i) to iv). As all these examples have been searched by the International Search Authority the Examining Authority is of the opinion that a complete search has been performed for the claimed subject-matter.